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DAILY 49ER

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Vol. LIX, Issue 642 www.Daily49er.com Thursday, October 3, 2013

Showtime comes to The Beach

Los Angeles Lakers announcer Stu Launtz speaks to students.

By Spencer Pirdy
Assistant Sports Editor

Los Angeles Lakers announcer Stu Lantz visited the Beach Auditorium yesterday, offering students insight that he's gained from an extensive career in broadcasting.

"It was awesome to get to see the guy I've been watching on Lakers games ever since I can remember," senior journalism major Evan Cornutt said.

Cal State Long Beach journalism professor John Shrader moderated the event as students waited to hear what Lantz had to say.

"What I do is what you do," Lantz said. "You sit in front of the TV and make comments. The only difference is that I get paid."

Lantz has been in the field for more than a decade and is the owner of six championship rings, which he said he wears all the time.

"We don't hang up division banners," Lantz said about the Lakers franchise. "The only thing that matters is winning the ultimate championship."

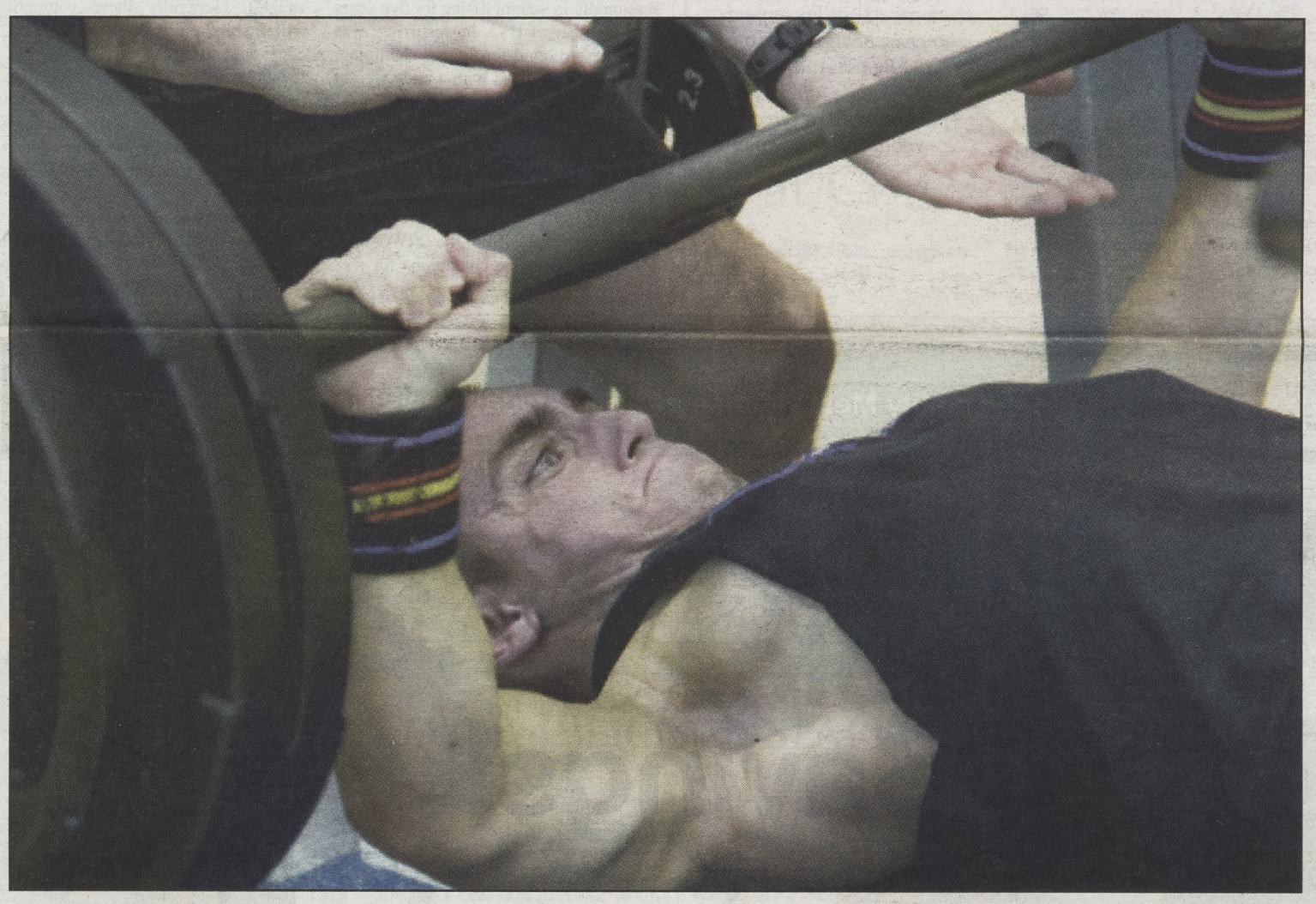
Lantz has been broadcasting Lakers games since 1987, when he made his first appearance on TV and radio broadcasts with the late, great Francis Dayle "Chick" Hearn.

Lantz, who earned a degree in elementary education, said he credits the success of his career to working with Hearn.

"Without Chick [Hearn] in my life, it would be tough teaching those third graders," Lantz said.

While many questions were aimed at Lantz's ability to perfect the broadcasting craft, a number of attendees were also focused on the fate of the Lakers franchise looking towards the upcoming season.

See *Lakers*, Page 2



Bench Press Contest sees record turnout

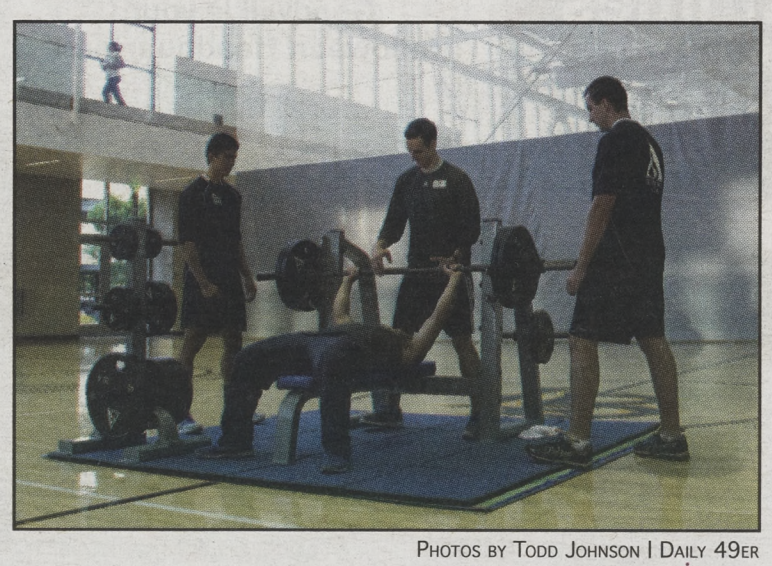
Students won awards in six different categories.

By Kirsten Farmer
Staff Writer

Forty Cal State Long Beach students came out to compete in the third annual Bench Press Contest in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center yesterday.

The stadium-style competition gave participants three chances to lift their heaviest possible weight, with at least a one-minute rest in between each lift.

The initial lifting weight started at 80 pounds and increased in five-pound increments, until the heaviest attempt was reached at 375 pounds.



Photos by Todd Johnson | Daily 49er

Top: Junior kinesiology major Will Garcia lifts 300 lbs.

Above: Senior communications major Landon Boneck lifts weights during the bench press contest on Wednesday.

Judging members of Associated Students Inc. Fitness scored the competitors based on each student's best lift as well as his or her weight class.

The winners were selected based on the best pound-for-pound ratio, or the lightest competitor who had the heaviest lift. Winners were also selected from each weight class for the men.

Jessie Fowler, a junior film major and the only female winner as the Women's Pound-for-Pound champion, said she trains six days a week at Gold's Gym in Venice to prepare for competitions such as this one.

"It's hard to start," said Fowler, whose heaviest lift was 135 pounds. "It's a total lifestyle change, but you have to stick to it. My favorite part is watching my body change. I've put on 20 pounds of muscle in the last year."

Other contestants like junior kinesiology major Will Garcia said warming

See *Bench*, Page 2

Graduate student honored for outstanding achievement

Anna Chau says she hopes to work with minorities and at-risk populations.

By Julio Tejada
Contributing Writer

From a young age, Cal State Long Beach student Anna Chau has always needed to support herself or her family.

Chau, who has been paying for graduate school out of pocket, was given some support when the Cal State University Board of Trustees awarded her a $3,000 scholarship at last week's meeting.

Chau, a graduate student in the counseling program, was awarded a 2013 CSU Trustees' Award for Outstanding Achievement, representing CSULB in the ceremony at last week's Board meeting.

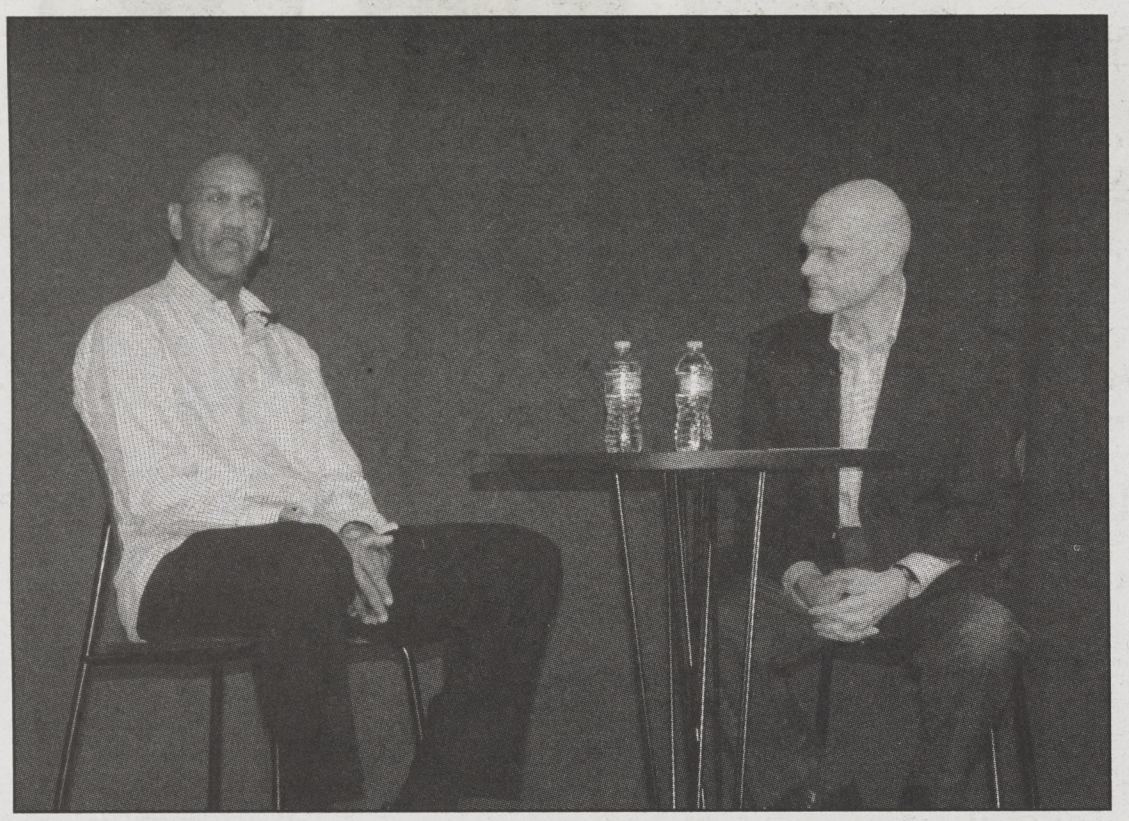
"This was the biggest [scholarship] that I was applying for and never in a million years did I think I'd get it," Chau said. "I got a call stating that I was the one nominated by the [CSU] chancellor to be chosen for the scholarship for [CSULB]. I was very ecstatic. I was very happy and shocked."

The outstanding achievement award is given to a student who displays great academic performance, community service, financial need and personal accomplishments, according to a CSULB press release.

Chau's parents came to the U.S. from Vietnam after the Vietnam War, and she grew up in San Francisco where she started working at the age of 14 to support her family.

After earning her bachelor's degree

See *Chau*, Page 3



Amatulla Guyot | Daily 49er

Lakers announcer Stu Lantz, left, speaks to students about his experience in broadcasting in the Beach Auditorium while journalism professor John Shrader moderates the event.

Lakers

Continued from Page 1

He sarcastically responded with, "Well, when you consider that our top three players are dinosaurs…"

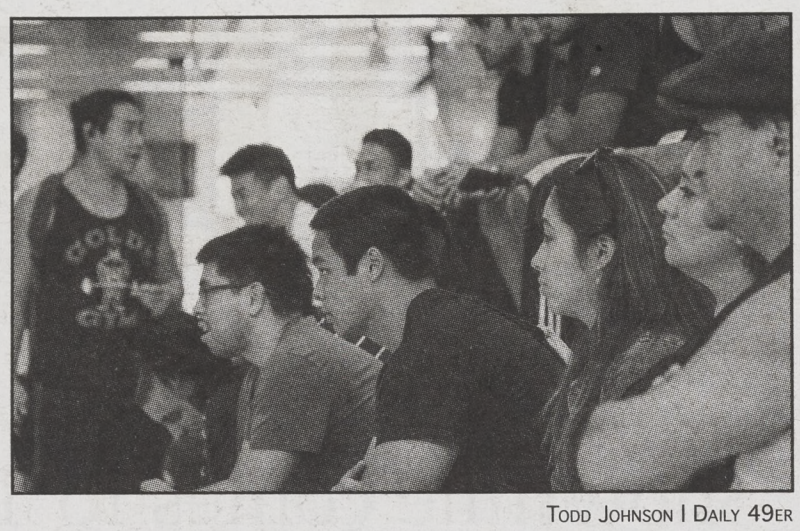
Lantz was quick to point out the Lakers' struggles, including whether or not Kobe Bryant will return to full-strength after enduring a near career-ending injury. His synopsis, nonetheless, was an encouraging one.

"If anybody can do it, he can," Lantz said of Bryant's ability to return.

The Q-and-A forum saw humorous stories shared, insights into the current state of sports journalism, and advice for students to take with them into the professional world.

"You're never going to stop learning… ever," Lantz said. "If you stop learning, then something's wrong."

As Lantz's time on stage came to an end, he thanked students for their questions and wished them luck with future endeavors.



Todd Johnson | Daily 49er

Students watched as contestants lifted weights during Wednesday's Bench Press Contest, which saw a record number of competitors.

Bench

Continued from Page 1

up and maintaining a good form while lifting are also important.

"You have to really train everything, not just [the] chest but [the] legs, back, even core," Garcia said. "It really all helps on the bench."

Garcia, who has been competing professionally in weight lifting for five years as a member of USA Powerlifting, was the Men's Pound-for-Pound champion, pressing 300 pounds with a body weight of only 130 pounds.

A total of six champions were announced, including Garcia and Fowler. Winners received plaques as well as a photograph of them receiving their awards.

Gift certificates from the SRWC were also awarded to the champions for free personal training sessions, "Bod Pod" body composition tests and massages.

Tony Nunez, the lead personal trainer for the ASI Fitness Desk at the SWRC, said this was the best turnout he had seen in the past three years, and he expects future events to be bigger.

"The competitors were motivating to the people watching," Nunez said. "It's great to see some people even put up their personal record [for heaviest weight]. Hopefully these competitors will inspire more of the spectators to come out and lift."

Nunez said students looking to participate in next year's competition should "start up a safe, progressive lifting regimen" and advised those who need help to seek personal training at the ASI Fitness Desk.

The names of all the winners will be posted on the ASI Fitness and Recreation website.

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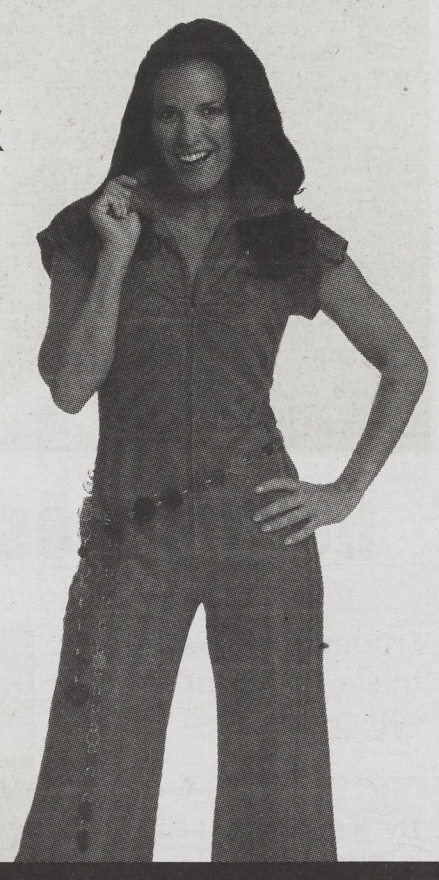

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CHAU

Continued from Page 1

in psychology at San Francisco State University, she took two years off of school to live in Hong Kong. Chau came back to the U.S. to pursue her master's degree in counseling.

After earning her master's degree, Chau said she hopes to work with minorities and at-risk populations, as well as victims of trauma and minorities in the jail population.

She said her upbringing influenced her decision to pursue counseling in graduate school.

"I grew up with Asian immigrant parents, so feelings were never talked about and they were never shared," Chau said. "Being able to go into counseling and help other people to explore their feelings and talk about them was a huge thing for me."

The Board honored Chau and the other award recipients at its meeting in the Chancellor's Office last week.

"The ceremony was something that I will never forget because I got to sit in a room with 22 other students who have endured some, if not more, of the same stuff that I went through," Chau said. "It was just such a powerful room to hear different stories that we got to share about our upbringing

Anna Chau

and struggles that we came across to where we're at now."

Chau said she was overcome with emotion when the award recipients were given a standing ovation at the end of the ceremony.

Bita Ghafoori, a counseling professor at CSULB and an adviser to Chau, said she was thrilled for the graduate student. Ghafoori described Chau as a dedicated, intelligent and committed student.

"It shows the quality of students we have here at CSULB," Ghafoori said.

Chau said she will put the scholarship money toward her tuition, which will help to lower her student loan debt.

100 freshmen sign up to take the optional Collegiate Learning Assessment

By Kirsten Farmer
Staff Writer

Dozens of Cal State Long Beach freshmen have decided to spend their next two Fridays taking a test.

One hundred CSULB freshmen will take the Collegiate Learning Assessment, an optional test for students, both this Friday and next Friday.

The performance-based assessment, created by the Council for Aid to Education (CAE), was originally meant to assess the effectiveness of an institution, but it can serve a dual function, according to CAE Director of Business Development Chris Jackson.

Jackson said the test is also an institution metric assessing whether students are learning essential skills on their campuses regardless of their chosen field of study.

Through a series of contextualized prompts, the online test assesses students' skills in critical thinking, problem solving, scientific and quantitative reasoning, writing and making and critiquing arguments.

Jackson said the exam is a valuable tool for universities to analyze their impact on students and for students to gauge their knowledge and prepare for the future, as well as gain the attention of potential employers.

"The results allow for microanalyses of colleges or demographics within a university," Jackson said. "The score is also proof that a student possesses on-the-job skills and to what degree their education prepared them."

CSULB Director of Testing, Evaluation and Assessment Susan Platt said the test also allows students to see how they compare to other students on campus, across the Cal State University system and in the nation.

Platt said participants are offered incentives to take the voluntary assessment. All participating freshmen will receive a waiver to take the Writing Proficiency Exam for free, and two $50 prepaid BeachCards will also be raffled off at random.

Platt said that students generally benefit from participating in the assessment.

"[Students have] told me they very much enjoyed seeing how they compared in their critical writing skills to other students from similar campuses," Platt said.

The scores earned by CSULB students are included in the university's participation report in the Voluntary System of Accountability. The data, which includes scores from all CSUs, is compiled to create a college portrait that allows for a comparative analysis of education in those schools, according to the CSULB website.

CSULB's participation in the assessement has shown the university to be one of the most effective institutions in the CSU, with freshmen earning higher scores than 97 percent of participating schools in fall 2011 and seniors earning higher scores than 80 percent of other institutions in spring 2012.

"CSULB has been instrumental to the [assessment] and programs like those," CSU Spokesman Erik Fallis said. "The whole idea of how to evaluate learning is something that a lot of people in academia have been working towards."

Although the test was created in 2000, many campuses in the CSU system have just begun to offer the test within the last five years, according to the CAE website.

"The CSU is moving towards accountability," Fallis said. "The test provides a window into the area where students are learning and skills they are acquiring. It is a means to improve what we offer."

The test will be held this Friday and next in Liberal Arts building 1, Room 207.

Man arrested for intoxication at CBA

By Crystal Niebla
Staff Writer

A man was arrested for public intoxication in the lawn north of the College of Business Administration on Sept. 26 around 6:40 p.m., according to University Police Lt. Richard Goodwin.

Michael Morales, 22, was transported by University Police to the Long Beach City Jail, Goodwin said.

Jeane Caveness, assistant dean of students, who reported the incident, said via email that it seemed odd to see Morales lying "sprawled" on the lawn at that time. She said that she had tried to wake him and ask how he was but he did not respond.

When they approached, officers found Morales, who was not a student, with a 21-year-old female's identification card, Goodwin said.

Attempted burglary at Academic Services building

University Police responded to a burglary report at the Academic Services building on Friday at 10:12 a.m., Goodwin said. He said that the student who reported the incident said it looked like someone tried using a crow bar to force open the door to Room 379. Goodwin said, however, that there was no missing property.

Smell of burning smoke near Dance Center

A fire was reported in the Dance Center on Sept. 26 at 4:46 p.m., according to Goodwin. Goodwin said there was a smell of smoke near the center.

Goodwin said once police arrived, they determined there was no actual fire and that there were no injuries or damages.

Goodwin said that the smoke may have come from a fire handled by the Los Angeles County Fire Department near Long Beach.

Woman threatening to harm self taken to hospital

University Police responded to a mental disturbance report of a woman showing behavior that implied that she wanted to hurt herself at Brotman Hall on Sept. 26 at 12:51 p. m., Goodwin said.

After police made contact with the woman, Goodwin said that she wanted to go a hospital. The woman said that she did not want to hurt herself nor anyone else, Goodwin said. She was then taken to the Pacific Hospital of Long Beach, he said.

Students reported on roof of Liberal Arts building 1

A community service officer reported four or five male students were on the roof of Liberal Arts building 1 on Friday at 8:47 p. m. Officers did not know what the students were doing on the roof, but they were advised to get off the roof, Goodwin said.

Three bicycles stolen at once

Three bicycles were reported stolen from the bicycle rack at the Student Recreation and Wellness Center on Sept. 26 at 10:05 p.m., Goodwin said.

According to Goodwin, all three bicycles were locked together with one chain.

Police asked the owners to provide the bicycles' serial numbers but have yet to, Goodwin said.

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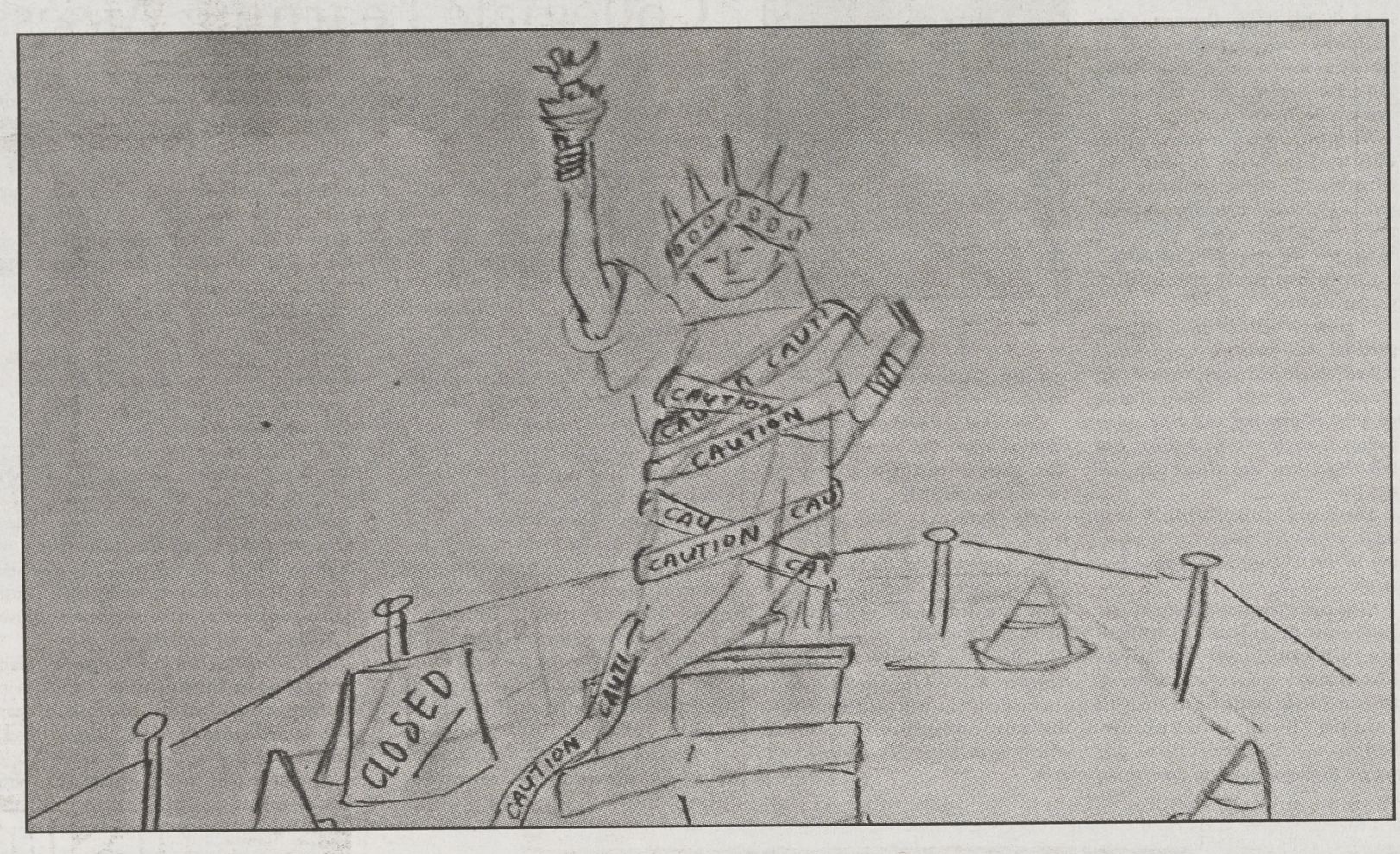
Congress needs to stop bickering, make compromise



OUR VIEW

The most recent government shutdown marks the first time in nearly two decades that Congress failed to pass a necessary spending measure that would have keep the government open.

As a result of the congressional deadlock, approximately 800,000 non-essential federal workers were furloughed without pay.

In addition, landmarks like the Lincoln Memorial and Yosemite National Park were closed because of the shutdown, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Although the shutdown most affects non-essential services, the point of contention in Congress — and the reason for the shutdown — is the Affordable Care Act.

Many Republicans are demanding a bill that "delay[s], defund[s] or in some other way disrupt[s] the imminent implementation of the [Affordable Care Act]," according to the Washington Post.

The Democratic-controlled Senate, however, has not passed any of the Republican-controlled House's spending measures because they would severely affect the Affordable Care Act.

"What right do they have to pick and choose which part of government is going to be funded?" Sen. Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) said, according to CNN. "It's obvious what's going on here. You talk about reckless and irresponsible, wow."

We are astonished by what is going on in Washington, D.C.

In theory, Congress should represent the nation's views and compromise when necessary.

Instead, it seems as though both parties have thrown out the option to compromise and instead decided to fight to the death.

What Congress doesn't appear to acknowledge, however, is that the government shutdown is negatively affecting millions of Americans.

Instead of fighting over the Affordable Care Act that was signed into law more than three years ago, Congress should find other places in government that can be cut.

But given that the federal government remained closed for a second day, it seems as though both sides aren't willing to compromise anytime soon.

The longer the government is closed, the more people will lose faith in our nation's highest body.

In a time when conflict is glorified, leaders in both houses of Congress should go against what has become the norm and extend an open hand.

LAUSD iPad scandal should promote district-wide reassessment

SHANE NEWELL

What seemed like a good idea for the Los Angeles Unified School District has gone terribly wrong.

According to the Los Angeles Times, students from three LAUSD high schools have been forced to return their district-issued iPads.

The reason for the return of the iPads stemmed from the fact that nearly 300 students at Roosevelt High School hacked into the iPads and viewed prohibited material, according to the LA Times.

The prohibited material on the district-issued iPads included Facebook, YouTube and Pandora, according to ABC.

The hacking incidents, coupled with the fact that district officials are unsure what to do if the district-issued iPads are lost or stolen, were reasons for the returns.

Although the LAUSD may have had good intentions by giving students sophisticated-learning devices, it is clear the plan was not well thought out.

What is appalling about the iPad controversy is that taxpayers are bearing the brunt of such a blatant misuse of technology.

According to NBC, the initial implementation of 31,000 iPads cost taxpayers approximately $30 million.

NBC also said that LAUSD's complete plan was to give 640,000 students access to their own personal iPads.

According to the LA Times, the cost of the entire iPad program is estimated at $1 billion. $500 million is needed for the iPads and software and an additional $500 million for installing Wi-Fi in LAUSD schools.

What's the point of giving school-age kids iPads when they're going to misuse them?

Through the recent iPad struggles, LAUSD Superintendent of Schools John Deasy remained optimistic.

"It's an astonishing success," Deasy told the LA Times. "I couldn't be more pleased to get [the iPads] in the hands of students and teachers. The feedback has been extremely positive."

Even without the recent struggles, it is clear that sophisticated-learning devices like iPads aren't entirely necessary. Students still have instructors to teach them.

Believing that every LAUSD student deserves an iPad on the taxpayer's dime is both foolish and unwise.

In addition, creating a program that costs almost $1 billion for unnecessary technology products is wasteful.

Why should students bring home the iPads when there's a chance they could be lost or stolen?

The main issue is that these concerns were not sorted out before LAUSD officials began giving away iPads.

Before any student received an iPad, officials should have already debated and instituted certain policies including what should be done if the device becomes lost or stolen.

Moving forward, it is clear that the LAUSD must shape up its iPad program before the publicity surrounding it worsens. Despite recent problems, iPads will still be given to students.

Without reform, the situation will continue to deviate from its original mission.

Shane Newell is a junior journalism major and the opinions editor at the Daily 49er.

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Letters Policy: All letters and e-mail must bear the phone number of the writer and must be no more than 300 words. The Daily 49er reserves the right to edit letters for publication in regard to space.

DALE
By: GABI MANEGUS
Hey! How was your weekend?
I got pulled over by a cop cause he thought I was Asian!
Wow! What did you reply with?
I didn't get a chance to reply...
A chick hit him with her car!

NUTTY
By Richard Cardenas
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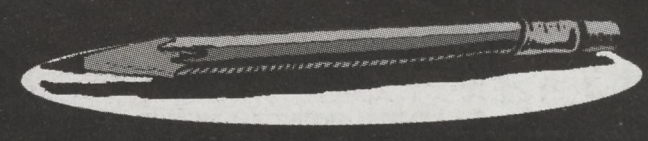


Grand Theft Auto reloaded

The popular heist game is back with new scenarios, sceneries, characters and crimes.

By Sean Mosley
Contributing Writer

Rockstar Games, the mastermind behind the Grand Theft Auto series, invites players back to the fictional city of Los Santos with new characters, schemes and features.

In Grand Theft Auto V, Rockstar has created a living world that constantly evolves with every event. A simple stroll down the street can instantly change once you turn a corner and find a shoot-out between the police and criminals.

The new version of GTA is full of random events at every turn. In an early mission in the game, one of the main characters finds his wife cheating, so he decides to pull the man's house down a mountain with his tow truck.

One of the biggest differences in this version is that Rockstar added three main characters. In earlier versions of the game, the storyline followed one protagonist and a myriad of people who helped him along his journey. In GTA V, you can freely switch between the three main characters: Michael De Santa, an ex-bank robber with a sweet deal from the FBI; his polar opposite Trevor Phillips, a psychotic trailer park drug dealer; and Franklin Clinton, a south Los Santos ex-street gangster.

The new characters, especially De Santa, are more advanced at gunplay while others specialize in hijacking and speeding away skillfully.

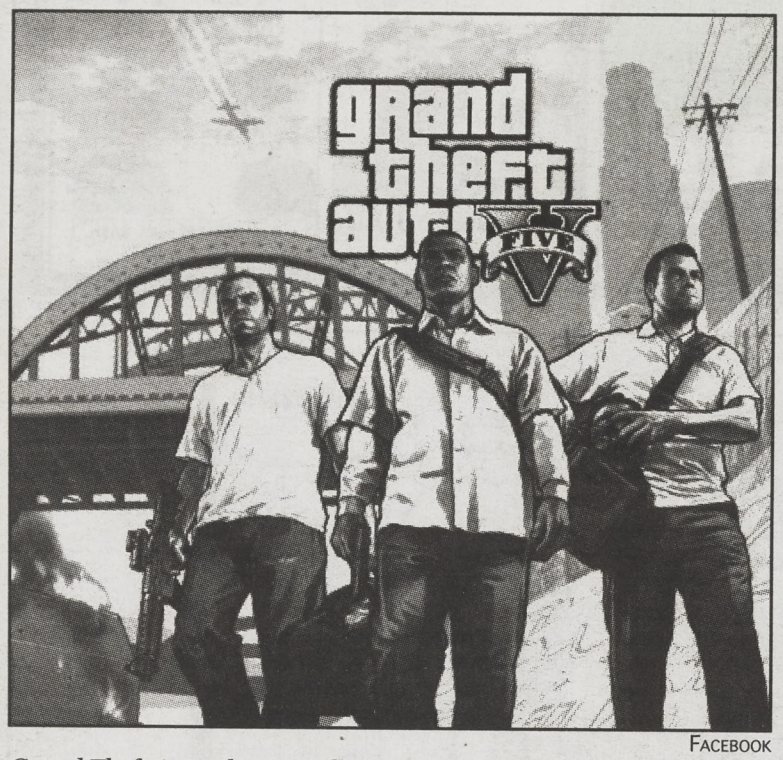
The character background features new developments as well. De Santa is presented as a middle-aged man living out his retirement with his ungrateful family who have been spoiled by his stolen money.

Phillips exemplifies the detail put into the new characters, and his addition seems to be Rockstar's way of adding comical insanity just because they can. He can enter a blind rage mode where he takes less damage while dealing significantly more. If things don't go his way, everyone around him will pay.

The attention to detail is astounding, and it shows throughout the entirety of the game. Whether you are walking in an area that mimics a familiar Californian city or passing civilians who are talking on their phones, it is an interesting development that differs from past versions.

After seamlessly switching between characters, you may find them mingling in the streets, watching TV at home, or riding bikes on the beach. They're living their lives and not just sitting in their houses waiting to be played.

The meat of GTA V can be summed up in the story and heist missions.



Facebook

Grand Theft Auto players will encounter a slew of new characters, scenarios and design details in the latest installment of the series.

There are a number of missions and events outside the main story, but the intensity of the heist missions stands out above all else.

There is a quiet option and a guns blazing option, depending on how you want to execute the heist. After preparing the crew and starting the mission, the goal is to take as much as possible. If you choose the right person for each role in the operation, the heist will be successful and go through as planned.

The game was released on Sept. 17. According to the Rockstar Games website, the online multi-player, which was released on Monday, is expected to accommodate more players than the previous multi-player.

Weekend Calendar

Weekend of Oct. 3

Fever/Dream
Friday
8 p.m.
Studio Theatre
Students from the Theatre Arts program will debut an adaptation of "Life is a Dream" this weekend. Student admission is $12, and general admission is $15.

Bear Dance
Saturday
4:30 p.m.
Puvungna
The California Bear Dancers and Musicians are coming to campus Saturday for the last stop of their 17th annual pilgrimage. Come enjoy the dancing and food, and share in the peace and healing. The event is free.

Student Art
Sunday
5 p.m.
Student Art Galleries
Master of Fine Arts students will display original works ranging from drawings and paintings to animation and illustration, all of which offer student insight on topics such as social environments and gender identities.

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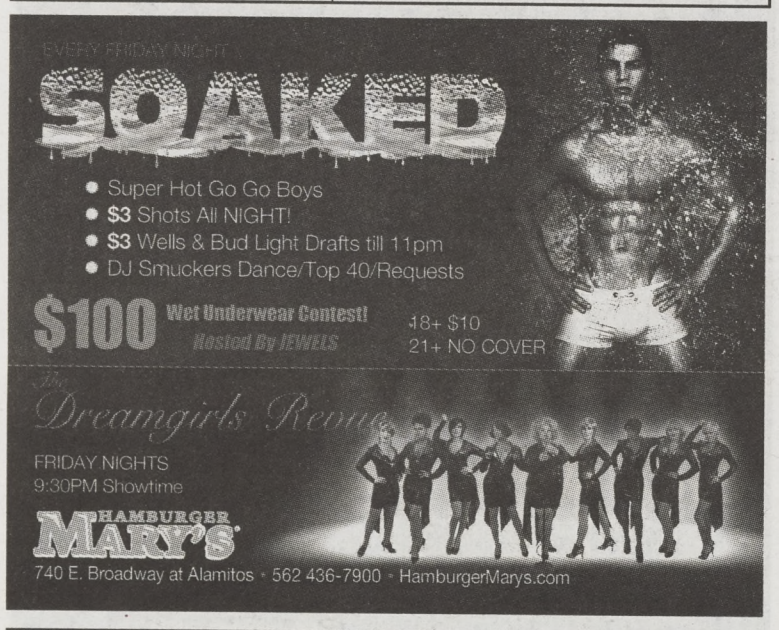

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10 Announcements

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to speak with your education program recruiter, Tammy Hong.

27 Legal Services

Legal Concerns? On-Campus Consultation with private attorney (562) 481-5884
Michael Lindley Esq.

18558 - 12.12.13

35 Employment Opportunities

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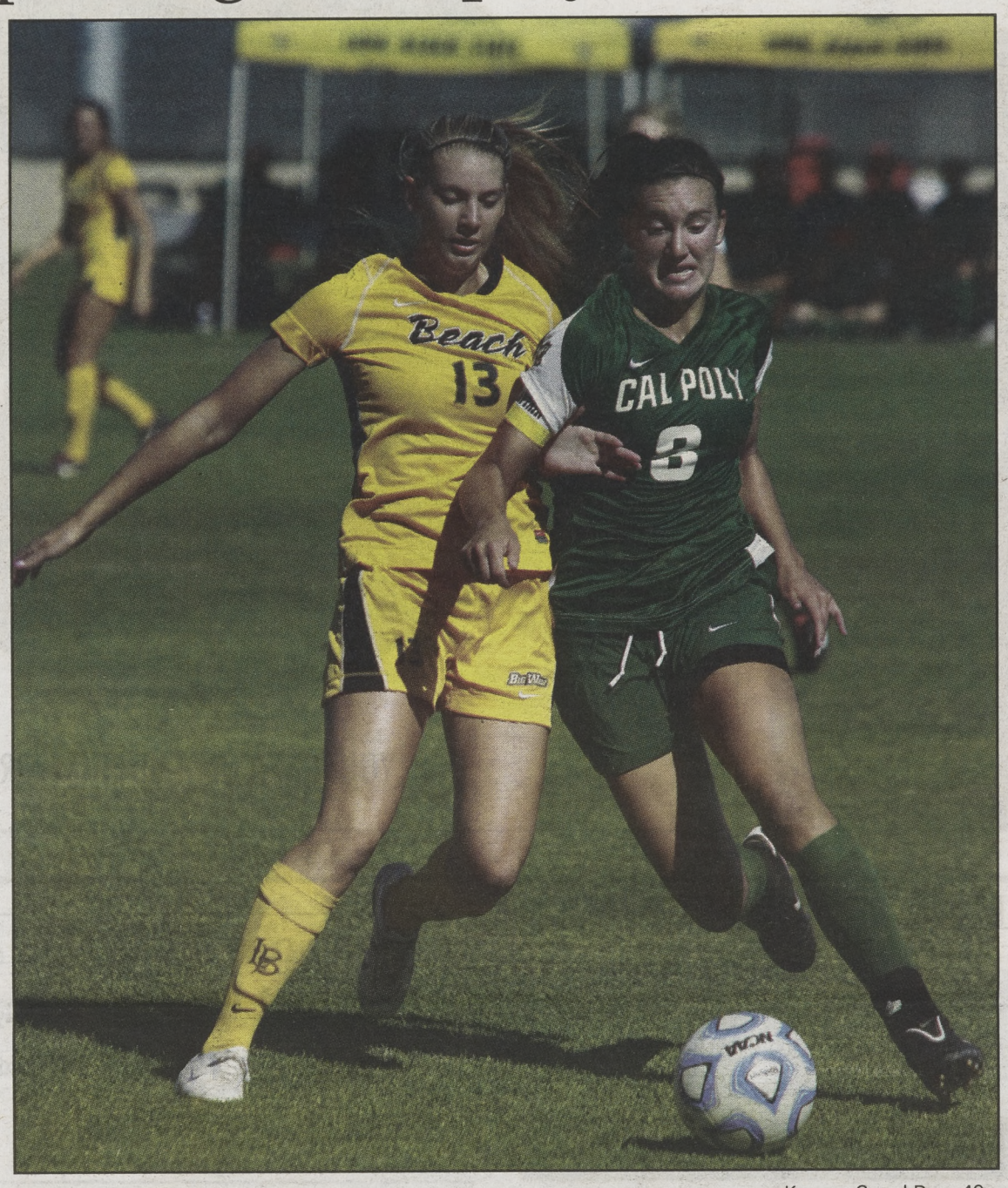
WOMEN'S SOCCER

49ers to open Big West play at Cal Poly

Long Beach State will begin its quest for a conference title on the central coast.

By Daniel Astle
Assistant Sports Editor



Kyusung Gong | Daily 49er
Hannah Sanders (13) battles a Cal Poly player for the ball during last year's 4-3 loss at George Allen Field.

A difficult nonconference season is over for the Long Beach State women's soccer team, and after performing well enough to start receiving votes in the national poll, the 49ers are set to open Big West Conference play this weekend.

The 'Niners (6-4-0) will play their conference opener at Cal Poly (4-6-0) on Friday before heading to UC Santa Barbara (6-4-1) on Sunday. The games will initiate a month-long battle among conference teams for the automatic Big West tournament bid.

"We have a tough opening weekend coming up," Ingrassia said. "You can only play each [conference team] once, and the away games you have really make a difference."

Cal Poly beat the 49ers 4-3 at George Allen Field in double overtime last year. This year the Mustangs started hot with a four-game winning streak, but they have since dropped their last six games, being outscored 21-1 in the process.

UC Santa Barbara's season so far has been highlighted by a five-game win streak last month during which it didn't allow a goal. The Beach beat the Gauchos 2-1 last season at home by scoring two second-half goals within two minutes.

The 'Niners lost four of their nine games against Big West opponents last season but still earned an at-large selection in the NCAA tournament, where they fell to Santa Clara 2-1 in the opening round.

Since the 'Niners had two huge wins last season against then-ranked Michigan and Baylor, LBSU's rating percentage index (RPI) remained strong enough by the end of the season to carry them into the tournament.

While The Beach has repeated with another pair of strong nonconference wins this season, notably against Texas Tech and BYU, 2013 is very different from 2012.

The 49ers headed into conference play 7th in RPI last season. This year they sit at 36th. Ingrassia said earning a selection last year was the most unlikely of circumstances, so this year the team is focused more on winning conference.

"In a bad situation, it was a great accomplishment," Ingrassia said, "in terms of scheduling correctly and going out and beating some teams that were some of the best in the country."

One obstacle that could interfere with Ingrassia's title chase this season could be the absence of high-scoring midfielder Eileen Maes, who is out with a knee injury she sustained Sept. 21. Ingrassia said could be out for up to five weeks with five weeks left of the season.

"We're hoping to play long enough to get her back on the field," Ingrassia said.

The two prominent players that have helped the team win its six games are freshman Mimi Rangel and goalkeeper Kaci McCain.

Rangel scored winning goals against both Texas Tech and BYU this season and leads the team with nine points, which include three goals and three assists. McCain has played every minute of each win while allowing only four goals in her last seven games.

LBSU has beaten UCSB three years in a row and hasn't lost a conference opener since losing to Pacific in 2009.

The 'Niners and Cal Poly will take the field Friday for a 5 p.m. start at Alex G. Spanos Stadium. LBSU will then head to UCSB for a 1 p.m. game on Sunday.

Big West
At a Glance

Long Beach State head coach Mauricio Ingrassia offers his thoughts on each Big West team.

Cal Poly
Wins: 6 Losses: 4 Ties: 0 | RPI: 227
Friday at Spanos Stadium
MI: "They're going to be strong. They haven't lost at home yet."

UC Santa Barbara
W: 6 L: 4 T:1 | RPI: 172
Sunday at Harder Stadium
MI: "Much improved since last season, and they're also coming in with six wins from the preseason."

UC Davis
W: 3 L: 5 T: 2 | RPI: 158
Oct. 10 at George Allen Field
MI: "A very tough team to play, always. It's always a battle with them."

UC Irvine
W: 5 L: 4 T: 0 | RPI: 58
Oct. 17 at Anteater Stadium
MI: "Irvine's been kind of our rival, along with Fullerton. In recent history we've had some great battles with Irvine."

Hawaii
W: 5 L: 4 T: 0 | RPI: 112
Oct. 20 at George Allen Field
MI: "Hawaii's much improved from last season. They have a new coach so she has a new recruiting class under her belt, and they've had a good preseason."

Cal State Northridge
W: 5 L: 6 T: 0 | RPI: 126
Oct. 25 at Matador Soccer Field
MI: "Northridge is the team that got the automatic bid last year, so they're going to be strong. They're going to be tough to beat, and we've got them away."

Cal State Fullerton
W: 5 L: 3 T: 2 | RPI: 72
Oct. 31 at George Allen Field
MI: "Fullerton is the team that won our league last year. They've had a good preseason and this year they have some better players."

UC Riverside
W: 3 L: 7 T: 1 | RPI: 272
Nov. 3 at George Allen Field
MI: "Riverside's struggled in the preseason ... but they're capable of winning a few games."

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Long Beach State to host No. 6 Hawaii

The 49ers and Wahine will square off in a match with huge Big West title implications.

By Jason Clark
Sports Editor

Hawaii Athletics
Hawaii's Emily Hartong (17) ranks 15th in the nation in kills per set.

It's been almost a year since the Long Beach State and Hawaii women's volleyball teams played a match for the ages in front of 2,466 at the Walter Pyramid.

The two schools will meet again on Friday with 49ers looking to avenge last year's 4-26, 34-32, 26-24 and 25-22 loss to the Rainbow Wahine, who would go on to win the Big West Conference title.

"It was well-played; we were just so short-handed," LBSU head coach Brian Gimmillaro said, referencing to last year's injuries. "We did the best we could, and we had the chance at the match point, but we just couldn't do it."

The Beach (8-7, 1-1 Big West) comes into Friday's match with more injuries than it expected to have at this time of year with Haleigh Hampton and Bre Mackie both labeled as questionable.

Gimmillaro said both players would practice Thursday, and a decision would be made by the end of the day on whether or not they would play.

"It's going to be emotionally difficult and physically difficult," he said, "because you're not able to practice with your squad. But we'll see who plays, and we'll see how we do."

Hawaii (13-1, 2-0 Big West), on the other hand, is coming into the Pyramid ranked sixth in the nation and in prime position to claim a second straight conference title. Rainbow Wahine star Emily Hartong, who is from nearby Los Alamitos, currently ranks 15th in the nation in kills per set with 4.49.

By comparison, LBSU leader Delainey Aigner-Swesey averages 3.51 kills per set.

"You're never going to stop [Hartong]," Gimmillaro said. "You try to get a couple opportunities against her, and you have to take advantage of those opportunities."

Fox Sports West will also televise the match. It is the only women's volleyball match of the year that will have national TV coverage.

"I sure would like to see the school represented well by us and by the fans," Gimmillaro said. "When you're nationally televised, you want people to see your school the way it really is."

With the 'Niners already losing one Big West game over the weekend to UC Santa Barbara, head-to-head matches could be the only way for The Beach to catch up to the Rainbow Wahine. Hawaii's only loss was in five sets to No. 13 San Diego, and with three first-place votes next to its name in the national poll, it can't be counted on to drop many Big West games.

"We need to win all the time," Gimmillaro said. "The challenges are there, and how we react to challenges are important to us."

The match will start at 8 p.m. on Friday at the Walter Pyramid.